FhM

FOR HER MANGAZINE
₱75.00 PHILIPPINES
November 2000

THE VISON OF ESCLABOWE
Get your glasses in an hour!

'STOP PLAYING WITH YOUR ORGAN!'
Beethoven's Mom Tells the Shocking Tale of the Master's Puberty

QUIT WORKING FOR PENNIES!!!
How to get a 'Raise' from your Boss

JO & LEN TRICKS OF THE TRADE
Tips on Handling your Marbles the Proper Way

PLUS!
Minus Divided By, Multiply!
Fractions Galore!
Basic Quantum Mechanics, Fermat's Last Theorem, Newton's Laws- Amended

DATING TIPS:
'Flatulence will get you nowhere'

'AH! MY GHULAY'
Kangkungan sa Cat's Trail

'YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND'
What it's like to have Dante do your every bidding
EXCLUSIVE MINA INTERVIEW!

DANTE
Getting Wet and Dirty with the Man from Pasig

9 770115 593803
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MANGA • ANIMÉ • MOVIES • HOBBIES • MUSIC • GIMIK • FAN ART

CULTURE

CRASH™

P 75 Iss. 03 Vol.1 November 2000

PLUS!!!

TALA-ILOG ON
HOW WE DRAW
EXPANDED!!! NO KIDDING!!!

McKee
WHEN JAPANESE POP GOES HAYWIRE

ANIME and MANGA REVIEWS

Harry Potter
THE MOVIE

TAMIYA TIPS

Cat's Trail
Solstice Butterfly
One Day, Isang Diwa

PASIG
cc_kom@hotmail.com

Print problems, prices, and language

Messages from the Editor

Hello again people! Hope you've enjoyed the last two issues! We here at CC Com are still struggling to normalize the production schedules and we know how eagerly and patiently (OK some of you were impatient!) you waited for it.

A brief explanation on that topic, you see we had difficulty distributing the first issue. A good example would be that after the final approval from a certain bookstore, it still took 3 weeks for them to put it out. And even then we couldn't dictate how many copies went to which branches. Also, when we had finally decided to get into print production, the peso dropped, the price of oil went up, there was a wage hike, paper price became unstable, we teased Memer, and had to reject the first two shipments of paper due to inferiority. No way would we maintain the same price and give you readers inferior quality! For that would have been a violation of the commitment and trust that we have so far established with you.

A concern that has caught our attention is that we have had several reports from different locations that the publication is being sold at around 95 to 100 pesos. It was reasoned that it was because of the scarcity and high demand that the publication was enjoying. Normally this would all be very flattering, since in all my years of comic book collecting this would be the first time I have heard of a local publication appreciating in value. And in just over a month for that matter! But the fact is we still had stock on several locations at the time (just hidden around big bookstores) so in response, I pulled out a few thousand copies due for export and redistributed them. Now if all these new copies still sell out, then I would have no objection with the price appreciation. But then again, we really can't decide the profit margin for some shop owners.

Now, we have had several comments on the usage of the Filipino language within the pages, thankfully the majority of readers seem to have taken it positively, although some have expressed their befuddlement on why we decided to go Filipino. In addition to the reasons I had already given last issue, such as appropriateness and setting of the stories, we wanted to publish the stories in Filipino because we are Filipinos and we are making this publication for Filipinos. Not only has it allowed us to achieve that unmistakable "Pinoy Feel" for our stories, but it has also given us an outlet to exude our pride as Filipinos.

But you know what? I'm out of space so I'll try to remember to continue this next ish! =) Thanks again for your support! With it, we know we can change the industry and show everyone that the Filipino is ready! For what you ask? Errr... next issue OK?

Lovingly yours,

Jessie James L. Palabay

e-mail: cc_kom@hotmail.com

OUR STORIES THUS FAR:

PASIG: Mina, a runaway who became a bounty hunter by training in Bataan for the past five years has finally come back to her hometown in Pasig. She has a chance encounter with Dante, an enigmatic *Esclabo* or slave with the mark of the legendary warrior class. After that, she meets her old suitor, Lando, who participates in the dangerous sport of "Human Sabong" to support his family. She finally arrives at their doorstep, only to find Dante waiting to greet her.

CAT'S TRAIL: Airee, a mischievous thief wanted in two continents escapes from the law with the help of her friend Polaris. In issue 2, she escapes from the law with the help of her newfound friend (?) Butler.

ODID: Jun is your everyday guy except he has a *duwende* friend named "Diwa". He is a recent transferee who lucks out and meets the darling of the school: Clarissa. She introduces him to her friends friends who range from weird, to downright eccentric. He even meets a giant Tamarraw!

Solstice : It is the year 2135. The world is now composed of five major nations. Most of Asia is now known as the Regent Orients. And somewhere in Bataan, Raya, and her novice five-man squad chances upon a Unis Amerikan Mech and a female child locked in a life-or-death struggle.

Culture Crash™, Solstice Butterfly™, One Day, Isang Diwa™, PASIG™, Cat's Trail™ is published by Culture Crash Comics and J. C. Palabay Ent., Inc. with office at 67 General Ordoñez St. Marikina Heights, Marikina City. Tel. #: 942-45-12 to 13. The names, logos and all related characters of this publication are ™ and ©2000 Culture Crash Comics/J. C. Palabay Ent., Inc. and their respective creators. None of this publication may be reproduced or used without written permission from the copyright owner/s.

PASIG

KATLONG KABANATA:

MAPAGLARONG TADHANA

Story & Art by:
Taga-Ilog

A-ANONG GINAGAWA NIYA DITO SA BAHAY NAMIN?!... ESCLABO BA SIYA NG AMING PAMILYA?

HINDI! HINDI KAYANG BUMILI NI ITAY NG ISANG ESCLABO... LABAG SA KANYANG PRINSIPYO ANG PANG-AALIPIN...

MALAKI DIN PALA ANG MAGAGAWA NG LIMANG TAON SA BUHAY NG MGA KAANAK..

SI TRISHA.. AT, ANG BATANG NAKAPASAN KAY DANTE...

KAPATID KO BA SIYA?

TILA UMUWI AKO SA ISANG PAMILYANG HINDI KO KINAGISNAN.

ANONG SINABI MO?!

NAHIHIBANG KA NA BA? HINDI KA PUWEDENG MAGING MANUNUBOS! NAPAKABATA MO PA!!!

LABING ANIM...

LABING ANIM NA TAONG GULANG KA PALANG NOON NANG UMALIS KA NG BAHAY PARA MAGSANAY SA BATAAN...

WALA KANG PINAGSABIHAN, KAHIT SINA INAY AT ITAY... LIBAN SA AKIN SA BINABALAK MONG PAGLUWAS NG PASIG.

HANGGANG NGAYON, WALA PA RIN AKONG PINAGSASABIHAN...

TINANGGAP NA NINA INAY AT ITAY NA PATAY NA ANG PANGANAY NILANG ANAK...

HUWAG KANG MAG-ALALA. BABALIK AKO PAGKATAPOS KONG MAGSANAY SA BATAAN...

SNIF-

PINAGBINTANGAN NILANG MAY KINALAMAN SI LANDO SA PAGKAWALA MO... NAKULONG SIYA NG TATLONG BUWAN, TAPOS, PINALAYA DIN DAHIL SA KAWALAN NG MATIBAY NA EBIDENSYA...

MAGING AKO... PINAGPALAGAY KO NA LANG NA WALA AKONG KINAGISNANG ATE...

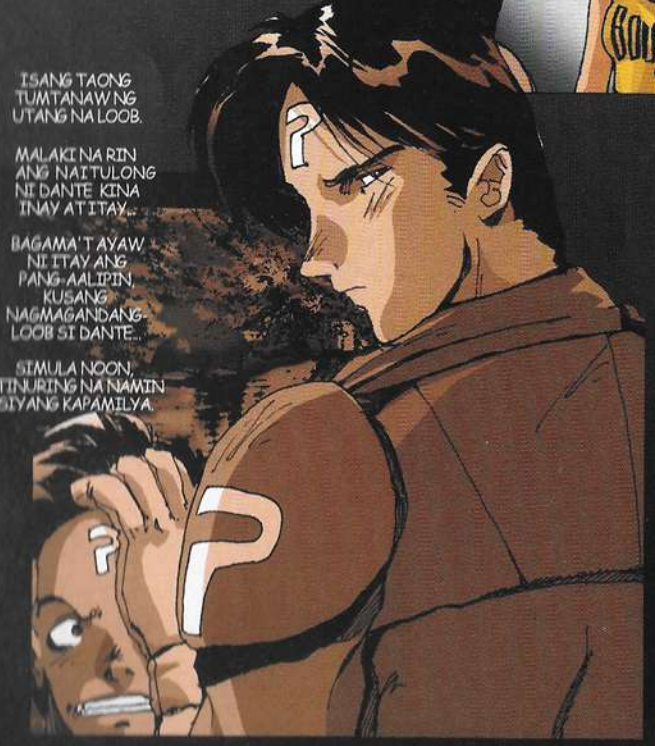
TMP

MPTMP

MAY DALAWANG TAON NA MATAPOS KANG UMALIS NANG MULING MANGANAK SI INAY...

IPINANGALAN NIYA ITO SA IYO, ATE...
MINA...

...AT SI DANTE?
BOUNTY

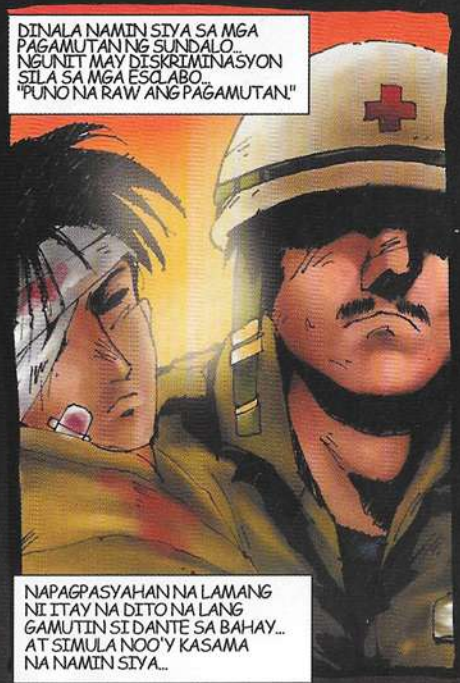

ISANG TAONG TUMTANAW NG UTANG NA LOOB.
MALAKI NA RIN ANG NAITULONG NI DANTE KINA INAY AT ITAY...
BAGAMA'T AYAW NI ITAY ANG PANG-AALIPIN, KUSANG NAGMAGANDANG-LOOB SI DANTE...
SIMULA NOON, ITINURING NA NAMIN SIYANG KAPAMILYA.

ANG PUTING MARKA SA KANYANG NOO... HINDI SIYA PANGKARANIWANG ESCLABO.

ANG MARKA NG MGA MANDIRIGMANG ESCLABO. SINASANAY SILA MULA PAGKABATA SA LARANGAN NG PAKIKIDIGMA... NATAGPUAN NAMIN SI DANTE SA MGA GUHO NG SIYUDAD SA LABAS NG PASIG HABANG NAGDADALA KAMI NI ITAY NG RASYON SA MGA SUNDALO SA DIGMAAN.

ISANG ESCLABO?...
SUPPLIES

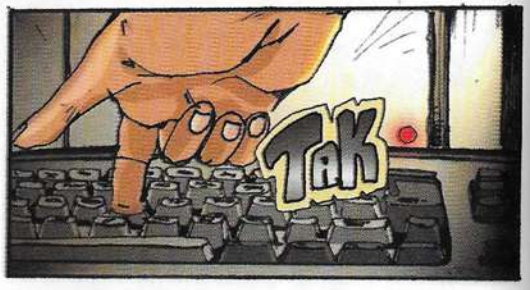
AMA, BUHAY PA ANG ISANG ITO.


DINALA NAMIN SIYA SA MGA PAGAMUTAN NG SUNDALO... NGUNIT MAY DISKRIMINASYON SILA SA MGA ESCLABO... "PUNO NA RAW ANG PAGAMUTAN!"
NAPAGPASYAHAN NA LAMANG NI ITAY NA DITO NA LANG GAMUTIN SI DANTE SA BAHAY... AT SIMULA NOO'Y KASAMA NA NAMIN SIYA...

HMM... TEKA, ATE BA'T INTERESADO KA KAY DANTE... SIGURO...
uhrrmm... ehem. TAWAGIN MO NA LANG AKO SA KUWARTO, KUNG MAY KAILANGAN KA.
BOUNTY

PANAHON NA PARA ISAGAWA ANG AKING SINADYA DITO... ANG TAONG AKING "TUTUBUSIN."

A-ANO ITO? ISANG KAUTUSAN SA MGA MANUNUBOS NA DAKPIN SI DANTE... BUHAY O PATAY... P-PERO BAKIT?



...WALA NA SILANG BINIGAY NA IMPORMASYON TUNGKOL SA NAGAWA NIYANG KASALANAN...

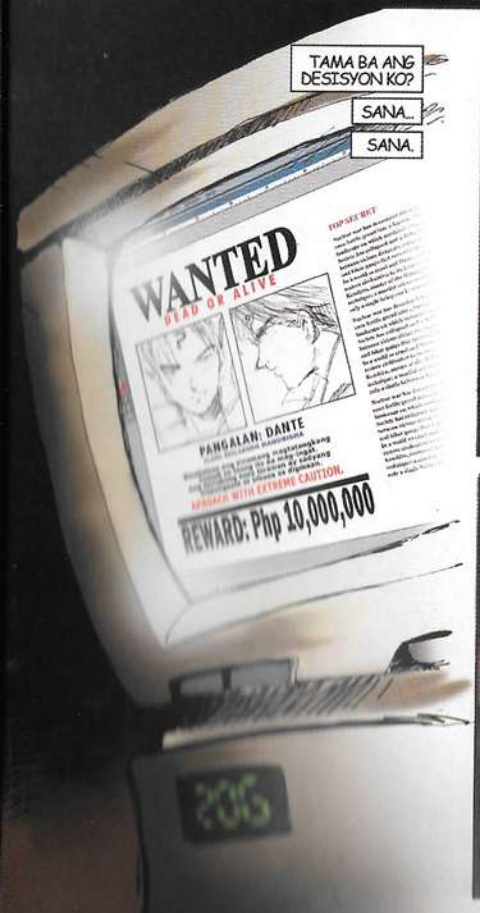
SI DANTE... ISANG MAPANGANIB NA KRIMINAL... NAGUGULUHAN AKO!!!

BUMIBILIS ANG TIBOK NG AKING PUSO... HINDI KO ALAM ANG DAPAT KONG GAWIN... LUBHANG NAPALAPIT NA ANG MGA KAPATID KO KAY DANTE... MARAHIL, MAS NAGING MABUTING "KAPATID" SIYA SA KANILA KAYSA SA AKIN...

ANG TAONG TUTUBUSIN KO...

KAILANGAN KO NANG MAGDESISYON...

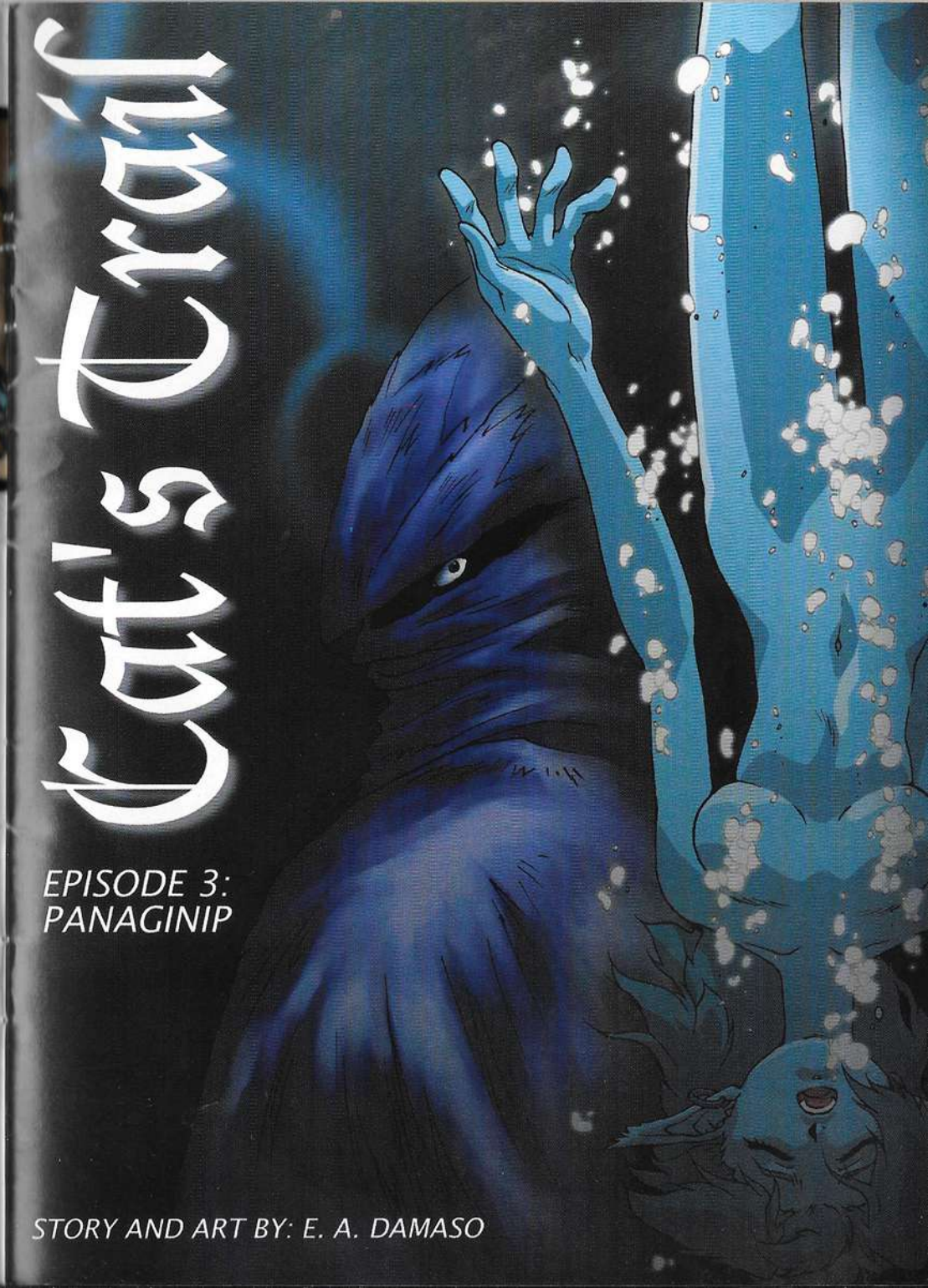
KAILANGAN.



ITUTULOY...

Cat's Trail

EPISODE 3: PANAGINIP

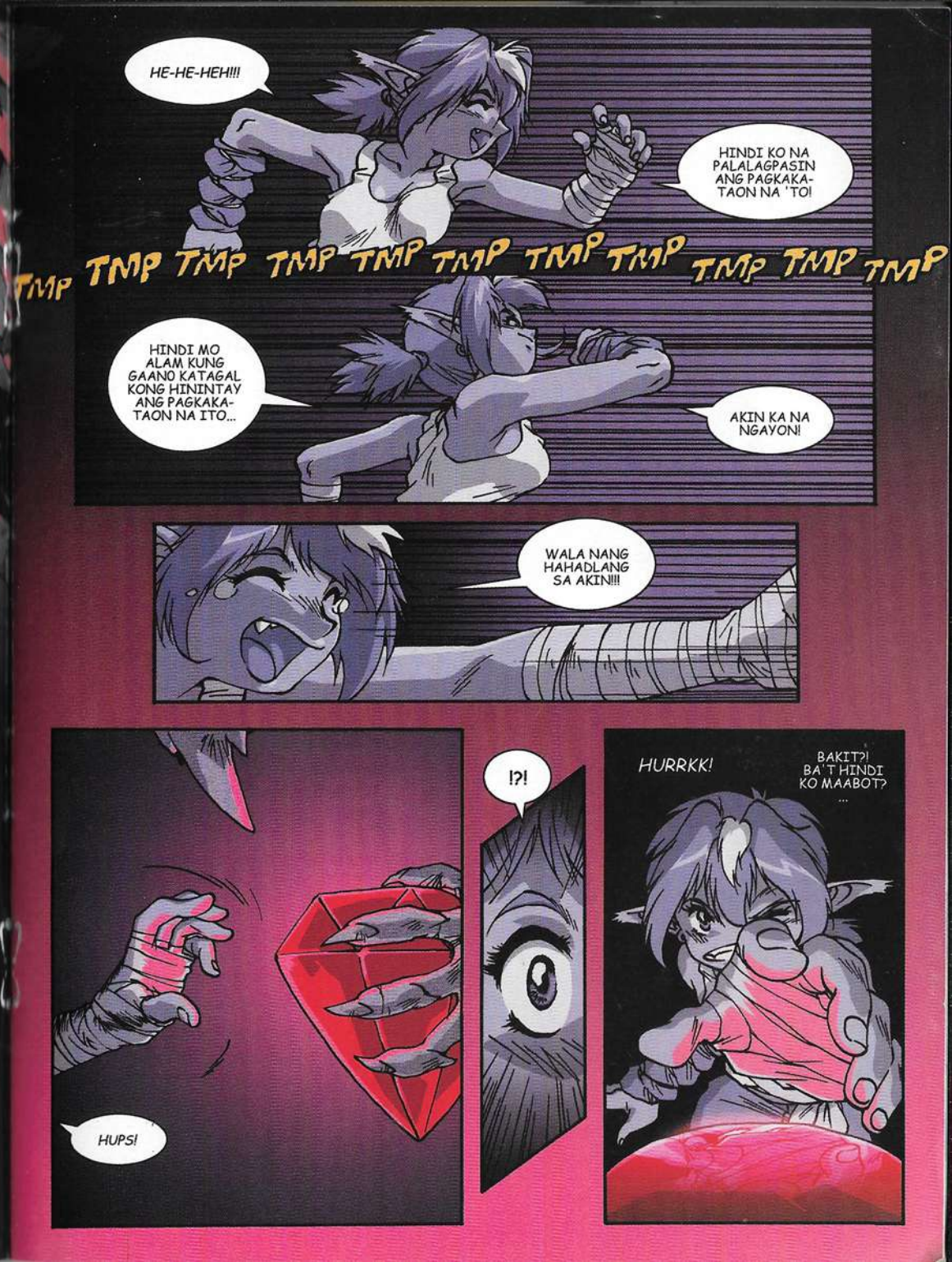


STORY AND ART BY: E. A. DAMASO

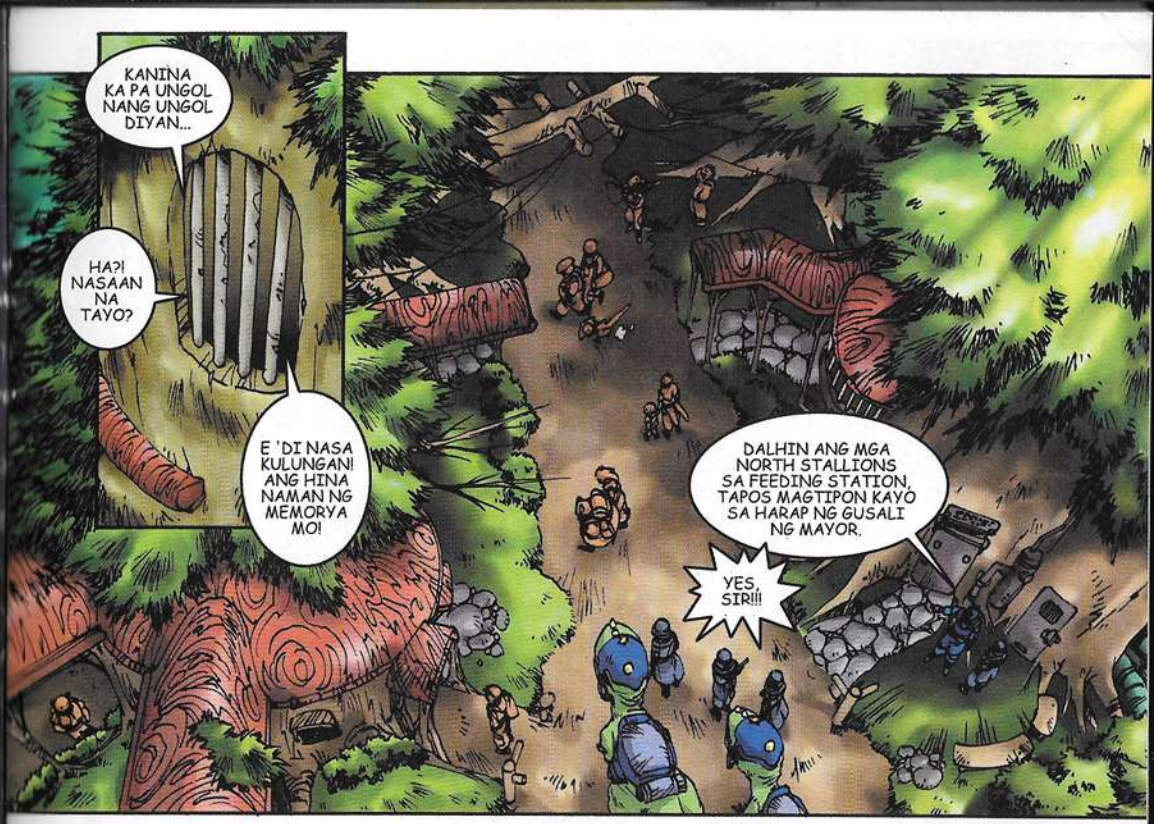
HELLO!!!
AKO SI KARIN, ANG DAKILANG MANGGAGAWAY. AKO NGAYON ANG MAGLALAHAD NG MGA NAKARAANG PANGYAYARI, PATI NA RIN ANG MGA EKSENANG HINDI NA MAIGUHIT NG MAY-AKDA DAHIL SA KAKAPUSAN NG MGA PAHINA...
(EHEM!...EHEM!...)
PSSST! ANO ANG GINAGAWA MO?
DAHIL WALA LANG SI BOSSING. NAG-FEELING BIDA KA NA!
PUWEDE BA?!!! PABIGAT KA SA BUHAY KO A!!!
OUCH HA! DATS BAD!
E-HEH-HEH!... PASENSIYA NA SA MAKULIT NA BUBWIT NA 'YON. MAY TOPAK SA ULO KASI EH!
MABALIK NGA SA KUWENTO...
HU-HU-HU... PORKE MALIIT LANG AKO...
ISUSUMBONG KITA SA NANAY KO! HU-HU-HU...
"LUMISAN NA SA MANIRA SINA AIREE AT POLARIS AT INIWAN ANG KAWAWANG SI BUTLER NA NAG-IISA... (MGA WALANG UTANG NG LOOB! MATAPOS BA NAMAN TULUNGAN AT LAHAT-LAHAT...)"
"DINALA ANG ATING MGA BIDA SA GUBAT NG FEATHERWOODS ANG SUSUNOD NA PINAKAMALAPIT NA BAYAN AT DOON SILA PANSAMANTALANG KINULONG."
HANGGANG SA...

AIREE...
HA?!
...AIREE COLLETTE!!!
HALIKA...
LUMAPIT KA...
SINO...? SINO NG TUMATAWAG SA AKIN?

...
WOW!!!
ANG RED DRAGON DIAMOND!!!
HI-HI-HIH! ALAM MO BANG MATAGAL NA KITANG HINAHANAP?
NARIRITO KA LANG PALA... PINAHIRAPAN MO PA AKO.


HE-HE-HEH!!!
HINDI KO NA PALALAGPASIN ANG PAGKAKA-TAON NA 'TO!
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
HINDI MO ALAM KUNG GAANO KATAGAL KONG HININTAY ANG PAGKAKA-TAON NA ITO...
AKIN KA NA NGAYON!
WALA NANG HAHADLANG SA AKIN!!!
HUPS!
!?!
HURRKK!
BAKIT?! BA'T HINDI KO MAABOT?
...

Chink!
Chink!
K-KADENA? ANO'NG?...
HA-HA-HA-HA-HAAHHH!!!
KA-CHUK!
HHGGGKK!!! SINO KA?!
AIREE COLLETTE, AKALA MO ISA KANG MAGALING NA MANDARAM-BONG...
...PERO MULA NGAYON...
...IKA'Y MANINIL-BIHAN... SA AKIN!!!
RRRHHHH!
SLAP!
HINDEE!!!
ZZZ... NGORK!
HA..!?
HOY!!! KUNG HINDI KA MAKATULOG, MAGPATULOG KA NAMAN NG IBANG TAO!

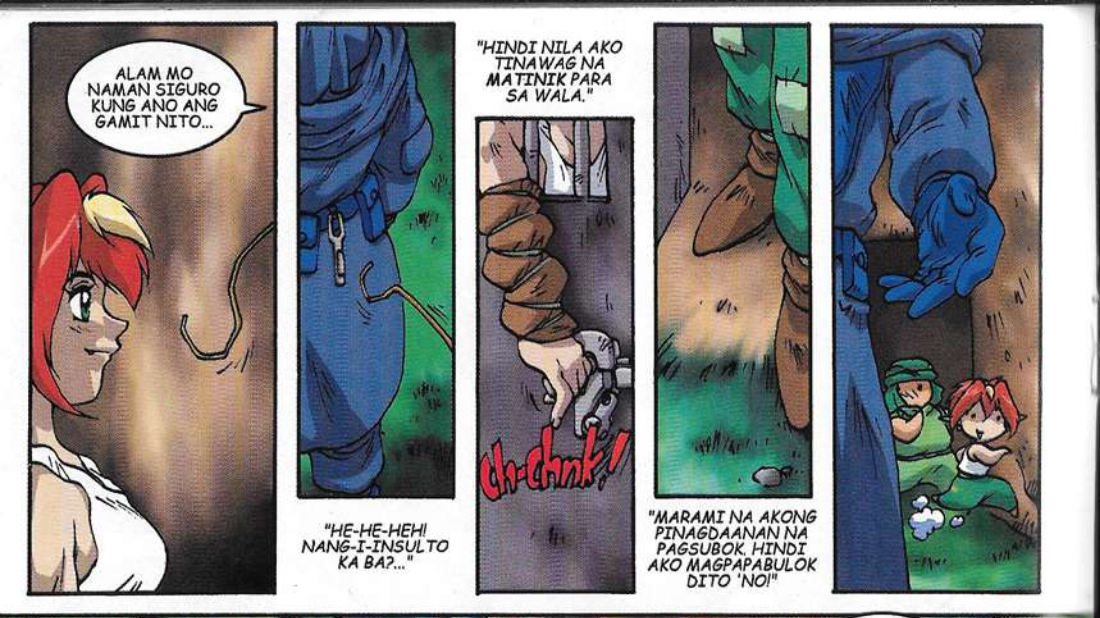

KANINA KA PA UNGOL NANG UNGOL DIYAN...
HA?! NASAAN NA TAYO?
E 'DI NASA KULUNGAN! ANG HINA NAMAN NG MEMORYA MO!
DALHIN ANG MGA NORTH STALLIONS SA FEEDING STATION, TAPOS MAGTIPON KAYO SA HARAP NG GUSALI NG MAYOR.
YES, SIR!!!

AT IKAW... BANTAYAN MONG MABUTI ANG MGA BIHAG. 'PAG NAKATAKAS ANG MGA 'YAN, MANANAGOT KA SA AKIN!!!
YES, SIR!
HMMM...

MAKIKIPAGKITA MUNA AKO SA MAYOR NG FEATHERWOODS. HUWAG KANG AALIS SA PUWESTO MO!
YES, SIR!
PAGKAKATAON KO NA...

SHH SHH
THUMP!
A...EI... UOOO... KA... KE...KI... KO... KUUU...
HEE-HEE!
ABRAKADABRA! LUMITAW KA NGAYON...
snff...snnff... ARAY, ANO BA 'YAN? BAKIT BA NGAYON AKO NAGNO-NOSE-BLEED?
EXCUSE ME, PUWEDE BANG MAG-TANONG?
(LUNOK!) YES, MISS? KAHIT ANO BASTA PARA SA 'YO!
MEOOOWWW!
TIYAK KONG MARAMI KANG MAGAGAWA PARA SA 'KIN...
HE-HE-HEHE!!! SINUSUWERTE YATA AKO NGAYON!
I'M YUR MAN!!!
BOPOL PALA 'TO E!

psst... psssst...!
HMM?
KUMUSTA NA KAYO?
HA?!?
SI... SINO'NG ...?
AH! HINDI BA IKAW 'YUNG LAMPA NA INIWAN NAMIN SA MANIRA?
!
TEKA, ANO'NG GINAGAWA MO RITO?
MALAYO YATA ITONG FEATHERWOODS SA MANIRA.
HINDI NA 'YAN IMPORTANTE. ANG DAPAT NIYONG GAWIN NGAYON AY ANG PAGTAKAS...
...MADALI!!!
HA-HAH! AT PAANO NAMAN KAMI MAKAKALABAS DITO? ABER?
PARA SA 'YO BALE WALA 'YUNG GUWARDIYA DIYAN SA LABAS. PERO PARA SA AMIN...
"HUWAG NIYO NANG ALALAHANIN ANG BOBONG 'YON! GINAMITAN KO SIYA NG MABABANG URI NG SALAMANKA..."
"MALAMANG KINAKAUSAP PA RIN NIYA ANG SARILI NIYA!"



Confiteor Deo Omnipotenti Quia Peccavi Nimis

Solstice Butterfly

Ni Jerard Beltran

Bella premunt hostilia Da robur, fer auxilium

Kyrie Eleison

...s irae, dies illa
...lvet saeclum in favilla
Quando Judex est venturus
Confutatis maledictis
Flammis acribus addictis
Voca me cum benedictis
...hfutatis maledictis
...ram mei finis

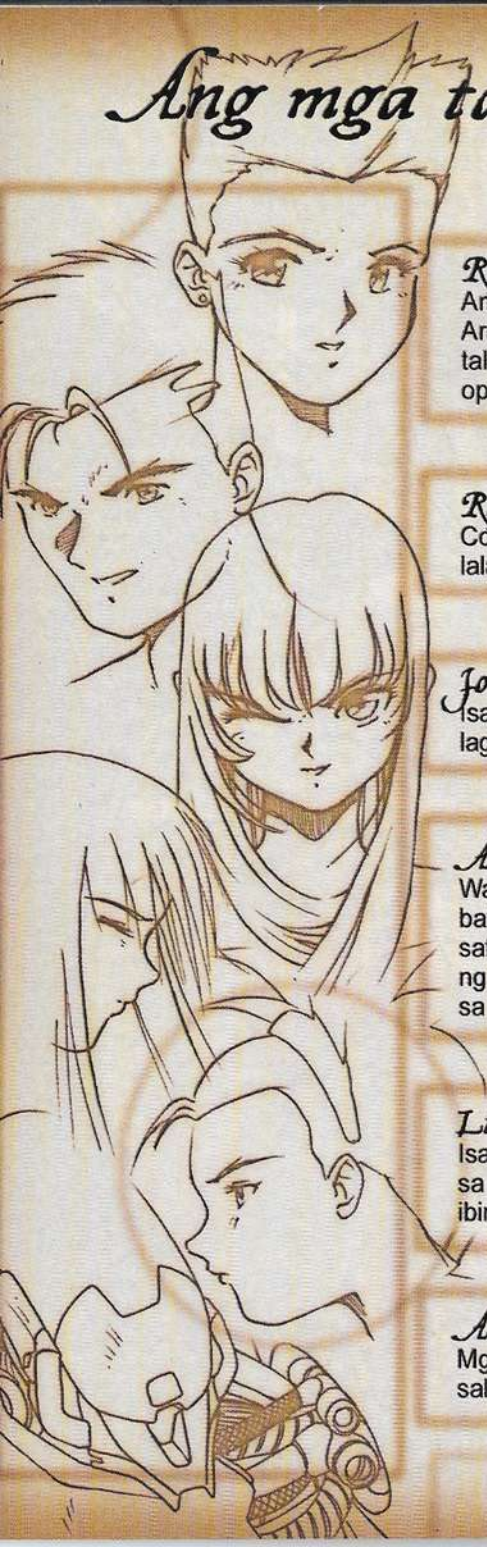
Agnus Dei-
...s peccata mundi

Anghel ; 1:3

Liberia de Domine de morte aeterna

Agnus Dei
Dona nobis pacem

Ang mga tauhan ng Solstice sa kasalukuyan.



Raya Mahabharati:
Ang bida ng kwento: siya ay isang tiniente ng Oriental Army ng bansang Regent Orients. Siya ang pansamantalang squad leader ng five-man squad sa clean-up operations sa Bataan.

Rajah Carandang:
Corporal sa Oriental Army, si Rajah ang kaisa-isang lalaki sa five-man squad.

Joanne Agassi:
Isang Corporal din si Joanne, katulad ni Rajah na laging nag-aatubiling sumunod sa mga utos ni Raya.

Ang batang bihag:
Wala pa sa kanila ang nakakaalam sa pangalan ng bata. Hindi pa rin alam kung bakit nasa labas ng safe-zone ang bata pero malinaw sa mga kawal ng Regent Orients na ang batang ito ay nakatagal sa pagsalakay ng mga American robots.

Lt. Herrera:
Isang kawal ng Integrated National Police na ipinadala sa clean-up operation ni Raya upang isauli ang batang ibinihag ng A.T.-01 sa Megalopolis Manila.

A.T.-01 units:
Mga robot na ipinadala ng Unis Amerikas para sakupin ang Orients.

MA'AM, GUSTO NYONG IHINANG KO NA LANG?
HUWAG NA, MATATAGALAN PA.
SIGURADUHIN MONG BAGO ANG FLUID NIYAN.
MA'AM, SAAN BA KAYO PUPUNTA?
MAY NAKUHA KAMING DISTRESS SIGNAL GALING SA SILANGANG BATAAN,
AT PAGKATAPOS NOO'Y, TUMAWAG ANG ARMY. NAKAHANAP DAW SILA G BATA SA KAGUBATAN.
SWERTIHAN NA LANG KUNG BUHAY PA YUNG NAG DISTRESS-CALL.
SIGE DONDI, MAUUNA NA AKO.
YES MA'AM! TAPOS NA ITO SA LOOB NG LIMANG MINUTO!
AASAHAN KO 'YAN.
nakakainis talaga ang mga taga-army na iyon!

hmph!
bakit nga ba lagi silang nakikialam sa mga operation namin! hindi ba nila alam ang mga clearance sa protocol?
isang batang babae ang kanilang natagpuan sa clearing operations... bakit nasa killing fields ang batang iyon?
ISANG A.T.-OI UNIT ANG NAKA-ENKWENTRO NILA. MADALI LANG DAPAT SA KANILA 'IYON.
SINO KAYA ANG NASA FIELD OPS NILA?
Tatlong Solstice units ang nasa Field Operations.
Mga sundalong nasa Solstice:
Army Captain Raya Mahabharati
-Nakikipaglaban sa A.T.01 sa kasalukuyan.
Army Corporal 2ndCl Rajah Carandang
-Umaalalay kay Raya sa labanan.
Army Corporal 2ndCl Joanne Agassi
-Nagbabantay sa sugatang bata.
MUKHANG MAPAPASUBO NA NAMAN AKO DITO!
DAKOOM!
DAKOOM!
SHEESH! NAPASUBO NA NGA!
PAMBIHIRANG MGA AT-OI UNITS NA ITO!
LALABAS KA, MALINIS ANG MECHA MO, TAPOS BIGLANG MAY BABAGSAK NA A.T. POD SA HARAPAN MO, EH ANO ANG MAKUKUHA MO? GULO! GRRRRRR!
DAKOOM!
DAKOOM!

heto na!!!
DROP ZONE: ATBATAAN NUCLEAR PLANT.
UNIT HEADCOUNT INITIATED.
UNIT SHOCK RECOVERY IN 10 SECONDS.
isang platoon ng A.T.-01 . . .
. . . ilan ang buhay . . .
. . . ilan ang nakalatay?
isang kuto, titirisin ko. . .
UNIT A.T.-01-a, CONFIRMED.
dalawang kuto, ayus na ang butu-buto. . .
UNIT A.T.-01-b, CONFIRMED.
tatlong kuto, naku, problema 'to. . .
UNIT A.T.-01-c, CONFIRMED.
. . . APAT!! GRABE NAMAN O!!!
UNIT A.T.-01-d, CONFIRMED.
PAPASPASAN KO NA BAGO PA MAKA-RECOVER ANG MGA LINTEK NA 'TO!!
PAMBIHIRANG ARAW ITO!!!
YAAAAAA!
BGN
BGN
BGN
BGN
BGN

SKRAKK!!
ISA.
ABA, NASAAN NA ANG IBA?
MAS MABILIS ANG RECOVERY TIME NG MGA ITO KUMPARA NOONG NAKARAANG LINGGO.
NASAAN NA NGA BA?!

RECORD LOG-ON.
APAT SA ANIM NA A.T.-OI UNITS ANG NABUHAY SA DROPZONE. DATI, 20 SECONDS BAGO SILA MAKA-REGROUP NGUNIT NGAYON, 10 SECONDS NA LANG. ANG DROP-SHIP NILA AY TULUYANG NAWALA AT MAS MALINIS ANG PAGBAGSAK NILA. (PAMBIHIRA NAMAN O!)
MALAKI ANG PAGBABAGO NG CIRCUITRY SA LOOB.
MAY PANIBAGONG NADAGDAG SA KAKAYAHAN NG A.T.-OI UNITS. MAS MABILIS NG TEN SECONDS ANG RECOVERY TIME NILA.
RECORD LOG-OFF.
KLANK!

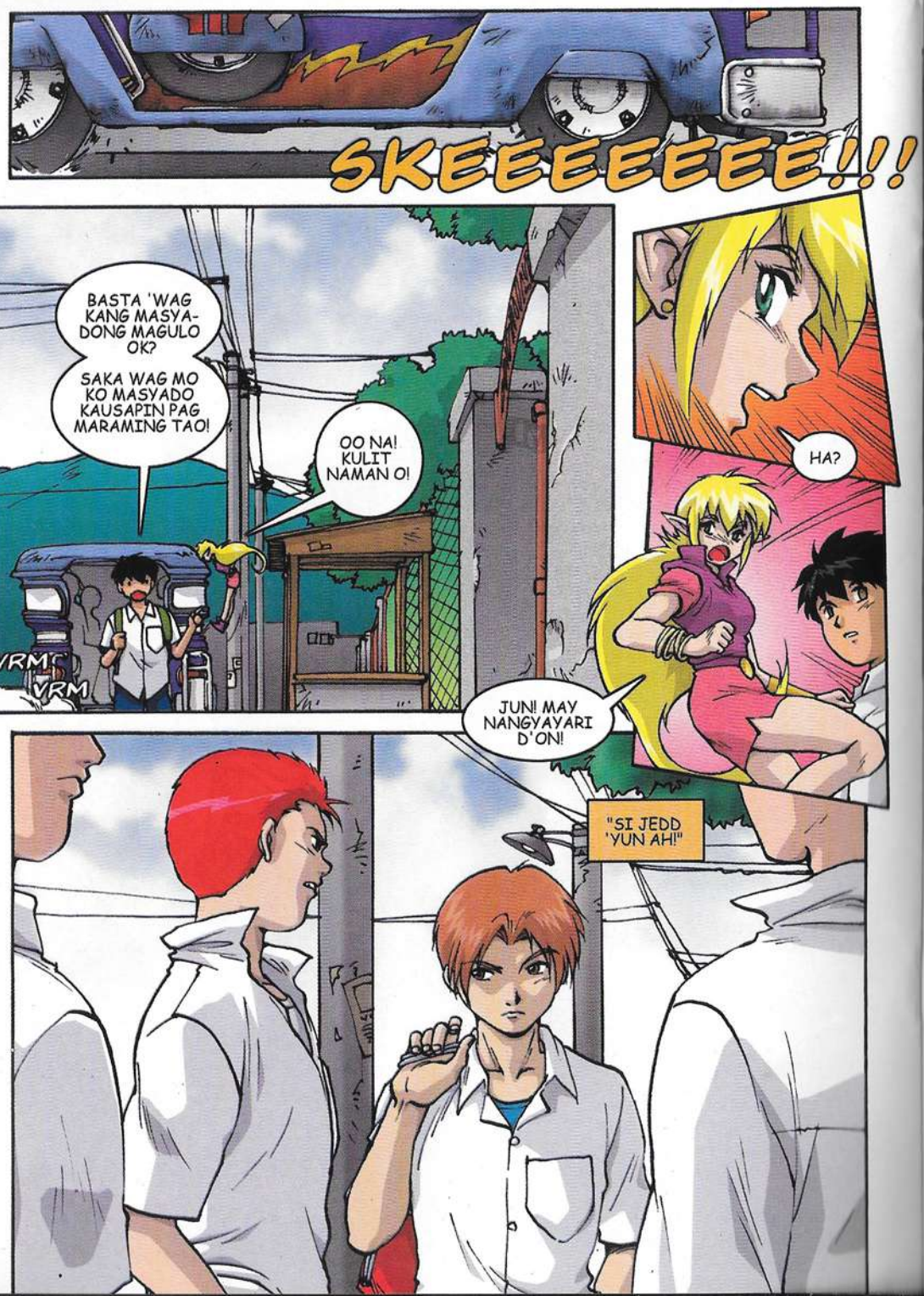
HAH!
FRATHH!
SKRANGG!
FAHHSH!
MUNTIKAN NA 'KO N'UN AH!!
ANO BA!!
SUMUKO KA NA KAWAL NG PILIPINAS. 'DI KA NAMIN SASAKTAN.
ANG IYONG PAKIKIPAGLABAN AY WALANG IKAHIHINATNAN
HINDI AKO SUSUKO!
VVVVASHHN!
SUNGET! YABAN PANGET! BLEH

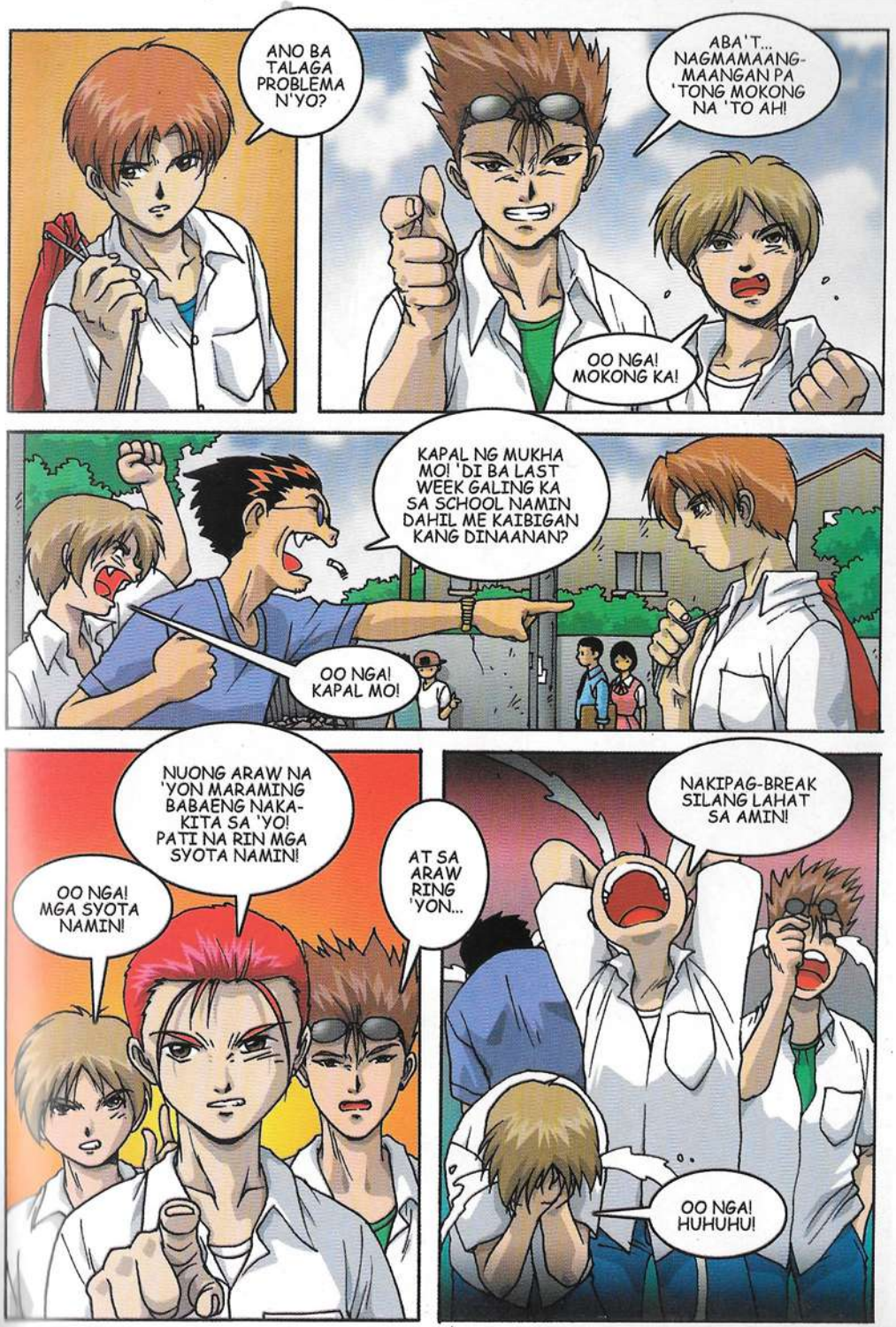
ITUTULOY...

One Day, Isang Diwa

KABANATA 3: "UNANG ARAW"

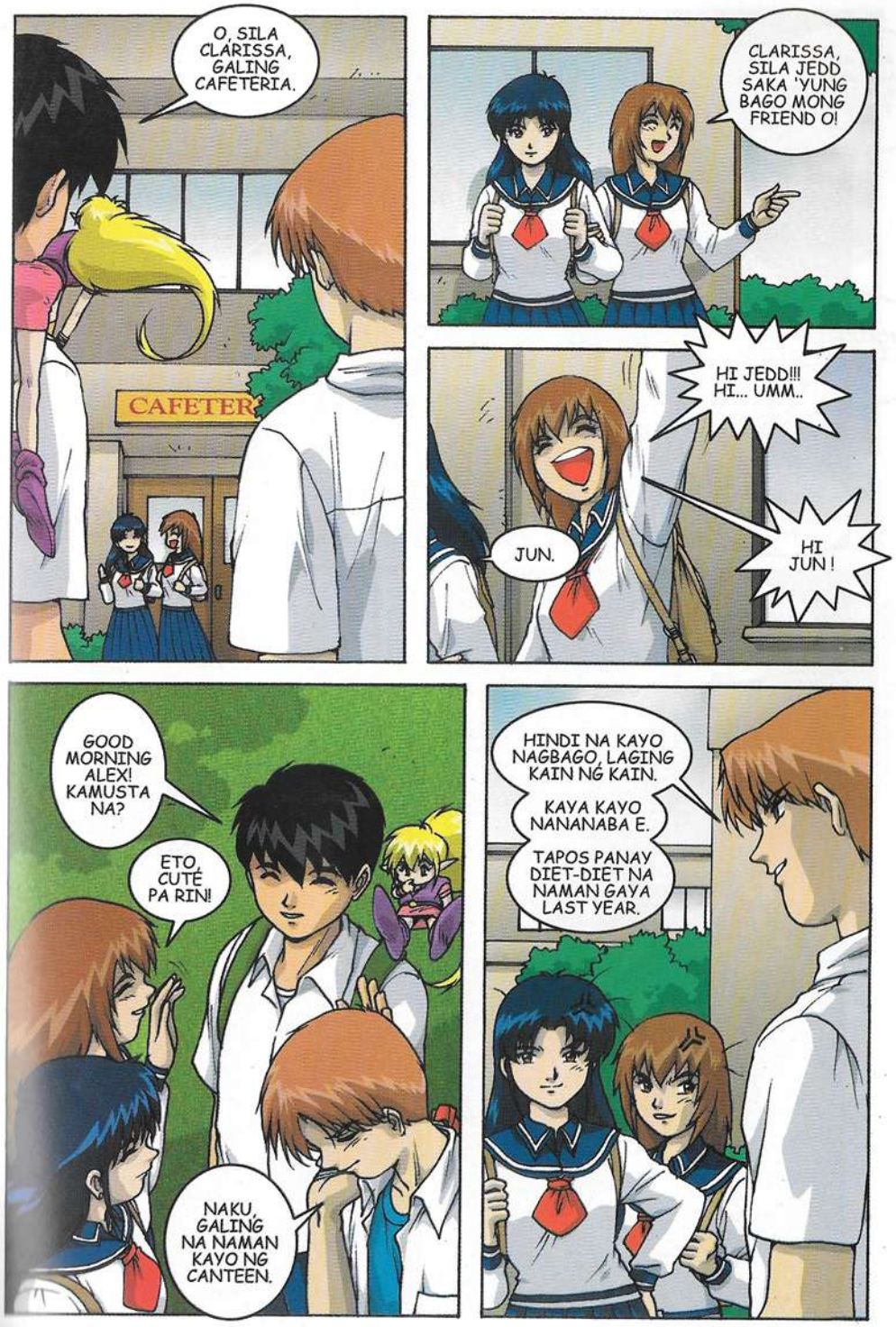
STORY BY: "SIR" J. L. PALABAY
ART BY: "SQUIRE" E. A. DAMASO

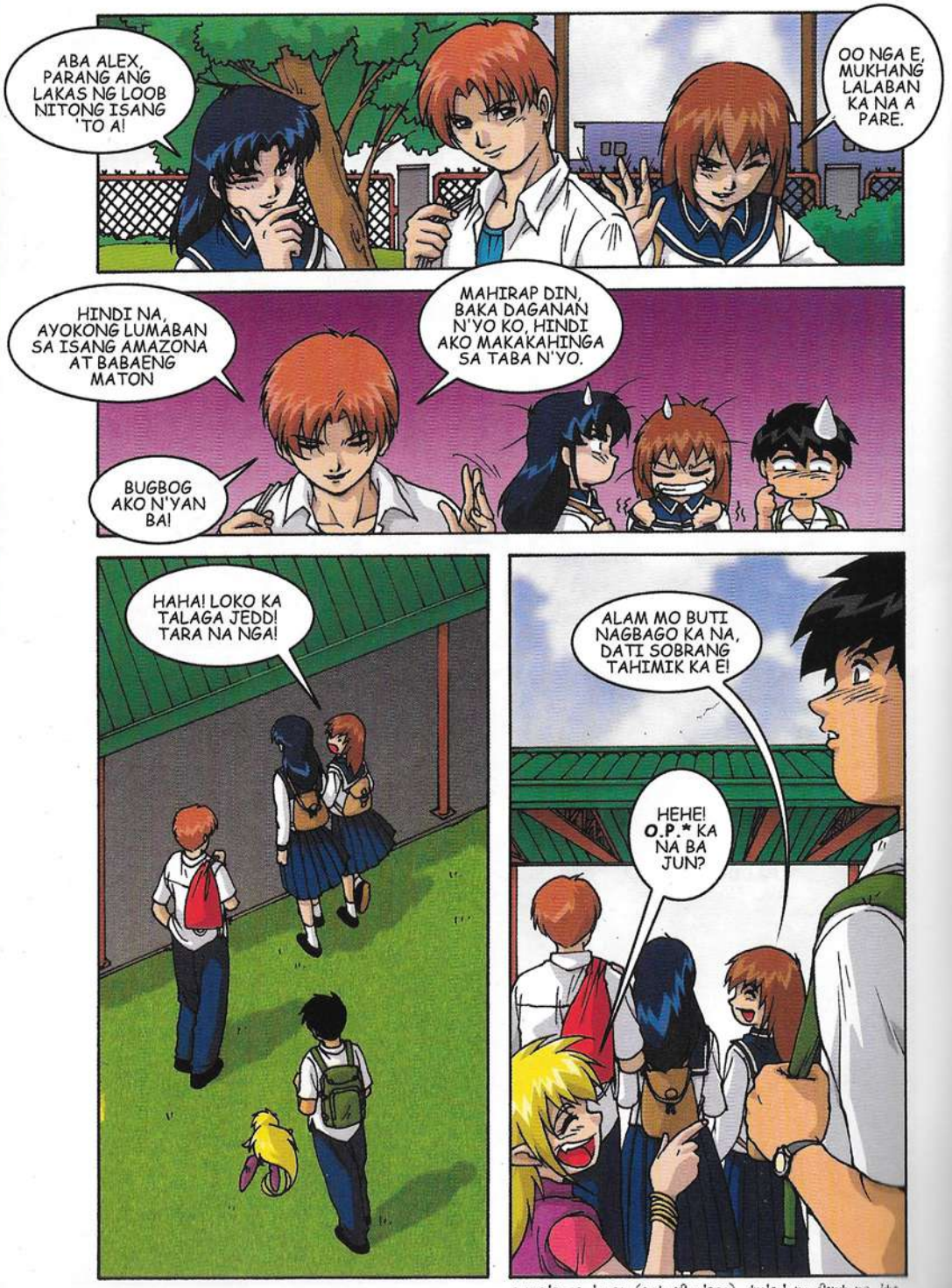

SKEEEEEEEE!!!
BASTA 'WAG KANG MASYADONG MAGULO OK?
SAKA WAG MO KO MASYADO KAUSAPIN PAG MARAMING TAO!
OO NA! KULIT NAMAN O!
VRM VRM
HA?
JUN! MAY NANGYAYARI D'ON!
"SI JEDD 'YUN AH!"


ANO BA TALAGA PROBLEMA N'YO?
ABA'T... NAGMAMAANG-MAANGAN PA 'TONG MOKONG NA 'TO AH!
OO NGA! MOKONG KA!
KAPAL NG MUKHA MO! 'DI BA LAST WEEK GALING KA SA SCHOOL NAMIN DAHIL ME KAIBIGAN KANG DINAANAN?
OO NGA! KAPAL MO!
NUONG ARAW NA 'YON MARAMING BABAENG NAKAKITA SA 'YO! PATI NA RIN MGA SYOTA NAMIN!
OO NGA! MGA SYOTA NAMIN!
AT SA ARAW RING 'YON...
NAKIPAG-BREAK SILANG LAHAT SA AMIN!
OO NGA! HUHUHU!

SABI KASI NILA, DAPAT SINGLE SILA PARA ME PAG-ASA NA SILANG LIGAWAN MO!
OO NGA! KAYA HUMANDA KA!
TANTATAN
TADAAH!
NGAYON MO MATITIKAMAN ANG NAGNGANGALIT AT DUMADARUMBONG NAMING PAGHI-HIGANTI!
KATAPUSAN MO NA!
WALA AKONG ALAM SA MGA SINASABI N'YO...
PERO KUNG AWAY LANG GUSTO N'YO PWEDE KO KAYONG PAGBIGYAN . . .
WHAAH!
WHATOOH!
KIYAAAH!
JEDD!!!

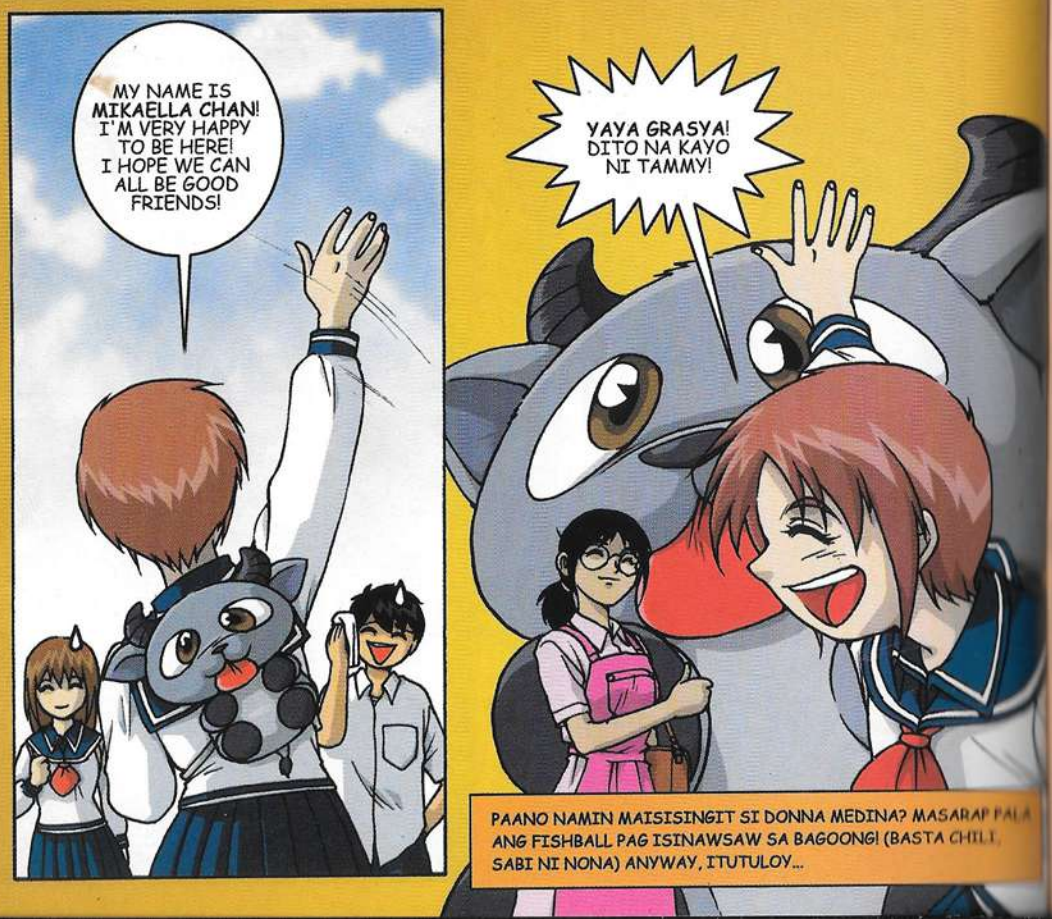
ANO?!? SIGE TUMAYO PA KAYO!!!
WOW! HANEP SI DARLING!
HA?
KHAOOOM!
JEDD! KAMUSTA NA? OK KA LANG BA?
AH JUN! IKAW PALA.
TARA NA, BAKA MA-LATE PA TAYO SA FLAG CEREMONY.
UMMM... DIWA, PAG-USAPAN NA LANG NATIN 'TO MAMAYA.
aray, aray, naku... o kay sakit, sakit naman ng ginawa moooo....


O, SILA CLARISSA, GALING CAFETERIA.
CAFETER
CLARISSA, SILA JEDD SAKA 'YUNG BAGO MONG FRIEND O!
HI JEDD!!! HI... UMM..
JUN.
HI JUN!
GOOD MORNING ALEX! KAMUSTA NA?
ETO, CUTE PA RIN!
NAKU, GALING NA NAMAN KAYO NG CANTEEN.
HINDI NA KAYO NAGBAGO, LAGING KAIN NG KAIN.
KAYA KAYO NANANABA E.
TAPOS PANAY DIET-DIET NA NAMAN GAYA LAST YEAR.



* wala sa lugar (out of place), tulad ng font na ito.

*HD, LIHIM NA PAGNANASA, HIDDEN DESIRE, HARD DRIVE... SA PC HA.



ANIMÉ

PREVIEWS OF UP AND COMING ANIME

The latest buzz circulating on the Internet is that a local network has acquired the rights to several anime titles for local syndication. So we decided to do a preview of them!

Bubblegum Crisis 2040 - Babes in armor and battle action! Not exactly a 200 MPH ride, but good enough! This is actually a retake of an infamous direct-to-video release in Japan back in 1987. The new TV series is a bit of a departure from the original. Basic plot? In the future, Boomers (androids) have been developed to rebuild Tokyo after a devastating earthquake as well as take on support duties for society. But what happens when the leading boomer manufacturer, the Genom Corporation starts a conspiracy to take over the world? Enter the Knight Sabers! A group of vigilantes composed of good-looking women in battle suits! The original video release was notorious for its great music, and while the new series may not be at par, it still puts out quite an impression.

Martian Successor Nadesico - This is one FUNNY show! But don't be fooled! Although things start off really fast and funny, this show is really a serious story about war and human survival. Earth's mighty space fleets have fallen in a cataclysmic battle against an alien race from beyond Jupiter. Leaving pretty much the rest of humanity ripe for the picking! The only hope left is a privately owned space battleship: Nadesico, armed with giant cannons and piloted giant robots based on alien technology. Unfortunately for humanity, its' motley crew is composed of the weirdest group of civilians who have never even been to space, let alone fight a war! Oh, cool opening by the way!

Brain Powerd - Nope! That's not another typo! I've searched and searched and that is the way it's spelled thank you very much! Story overview: The world is in chaos as an entity called Orphan moves to reclaim its young that slumber within plate-like artifacts through the Reclaimers. As chaos and eventually war breaks out between the Reclaimers and pro-Earth forces aboard the Novis Noah, the stage is set for "matira ang matibay!" I've only begun to watch this series so I can't really say much. Directed by famed Gundam animator Yoshiyuki Tomino, expect it to touch on a lot of serious topics about humanity and beyond. I'm wondering if the original opening video will be shown at all because it is quite literally full of naked women flying all over the place! (Hubba-hubba!) Nevertheless, like Gundam Wing, this is a VERY SERIOUS story.

Trigun - Now here is another funny show! The story is all about Vash the Stampede, a man with a 60-Billion double-dollar bounty on his head and the many people who are out to collect! But for a man worth such a huge bounty, he is very much the pacifist! My friend Adrian Tobias is all praise for this show and I agree that the show deserves all his accolades. The Wild West theme is just apt for all the gun- slinging the title itself suggests. And before I give you too much else about this show, let me tell you that the show is called Trigun because our man Vash has three guns in his arsenal all in all. The idea is to watch the show until you see all three because Vash's third gun is awesome!

I think I just told you guys more than I should have. Don't you just love how well anime is turning out in the Philippines? We still have a long way to go, but we're getting there. This manga-inspired publication alone is proof of this. Next time, I'll talk about anime in Japan. So don't forget to get a copy of our next issue ok? Jā, mata ne?

YUSAKU GODAI
Pinoy Otaku

TAGA-ILOG ON

HOW WE DRAW 2

Isang magandang araw sa inyong lahat... maraming salamat sa pagsubaybay ninyo ... salamat din pala sa lahat ng nag-e-mail at sumulat sa amin... (parang kolesterol- nakakataba ng puso ang inyong mga comments and criticisims.)

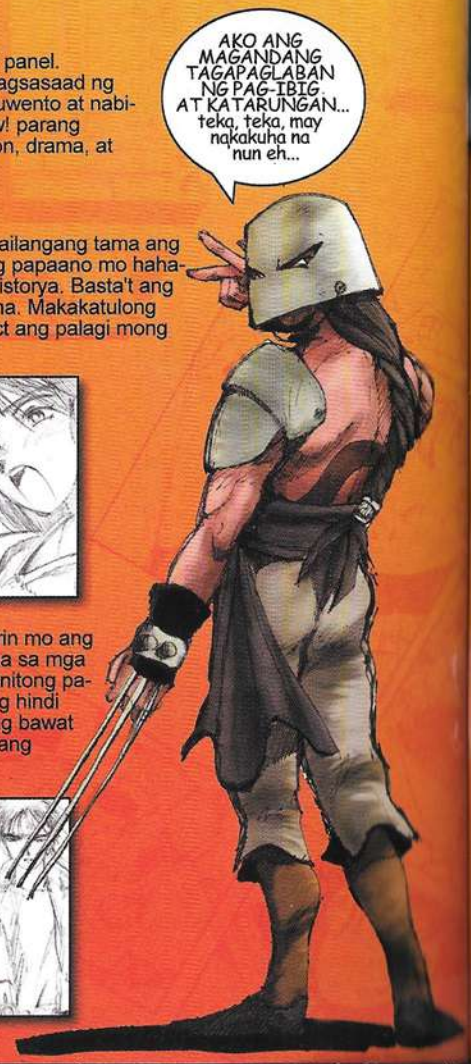
O sige na nga, balik na tayo sa trabaho...

Ang tatalakayin natin ngayon ay tungkol sa panelling at kung paano ito nakaka-apekto sa takbo ng story telling... (As usual, ang mga nakasaad sa article na ito ay mga kuro-kuro lang ng may-akda kaya hindi n'yo kailangang sundin ang lahat ng sasabihin ko... maaring may mga pagkakaiba sa pananaw ng ibang tao kaya iturin n'yo na lang na guide ito.) OK game!

PANEL

Una sa lahat, bigyang linaw muna natin ang ilang bagay tungkol sa panel.

Ang panel marahil ang pinaka-importanteng bahagi ng komiks sa pagsasaad ng oras at kilos. Sa pamamagitan nito, nagkakaroon ng direksyon ang kuwento at nabibigyang linaw ang mga pangyayari. Tunay na makapangyarihan (wow! parang Toguro!) ang panel dahil nagagawa nitong bigyan ng suspense, action, drama, at closure ang mga kuwento- kung tama ang pagkakagamit dito.



UNA-UNA

Maraming pamamaraan sa paggamit ng panels. Tulad ng pelikula, kailangang tama ang pacing ng istorya para hindi malito ang manonood... nakataya sa kung papaano mo hahatiin ang kilos ng mga karakter sa bawat panel ang ganda ng daloy ng istorya. Basta't ang mahalaga ay maging smooth ang paglapat ng aksyon sa bawat eksena. Makakatulong dito ang paglagay ng mga reaction shots para hindi lang isang subject ang palagi mong ipinapakita sa bawat panel.

Minsan, malaki din ang epekto kung sadya mong pagbabali-baliktarin mo ang mga panels. Nagiging mas interesante din at nakakadagdag ng drama sa mga eksena... ngunit ibayong pag-iingat ang kailangan sa paggamit ng ganitong pamamaraan, dahil madaling magkamali sa pacing ng mga eksena kung hindi maayos ang pagkaka-sunod-sunod. Para hindi malito, isipin mong ang bawat panel sa komiks ay isang eksena sa pelikula... ngayon, tanungin mo ang iyong sarili- wasto ba ang pagkakaputol ng bawat eksena?

TIPS ON PANELLING

Heto ang ilan sa mga techniques na ginagamit ko sa pag-papanel ng PASIG. Ok lang kung hindi n'yo ito sundin dahil iba-iba naman talaga ang istilo ng mga artists pag-dating sa pagguhit...

a.) Iwasan ang paggamit ng pare-parehong "head-sizes" sa iba't-ibang laki ng panels... mas mainam din kung iba-iba ang shot angles sa isang pahina. (eg. maglaro sa perspective: worm's eye-view; bird's-eye, .etc.)

b.) Panatilihing hindi lalampas sa anim o pitong panel ang ilalagay sa isang pahina hangga't maari. Kung hindi maiiwasan, huwag gawing pare-pareho ang mga laki ng panels para magkaroon ng direksyon ang mata ng nagbabasa.

c.) KISS (Keep It Simple Stupid!) Ito malamang ang pinakamahirap gawin lalo na sa mga artists na mahilig magsasasaksak ng maliliit na detalye sa kanilang panels. Maaring maganda nga ang individual panels pero kapag natapos na ang buong page, ay nagmumukhang cluttered na dahil sa dami ng laman nito. Kung titignan natin ang mga manga, hindi ganoon karami ang mga detalye nila... kung minsan nga'y wala pa silang nilalagang detalye dito. Kadalasan, ang ginagawa nila ay gumagawa sila ng isang panel na sobrang detalyado (ie. mood setting) tapos ang iba'y wala na.

d.) TANDAAN: "White spaces= Eye rest" Bigyan ng pahingahan ng mata ang mga mambabasa para maging reader-friendly ang inyong komiks.

e.) Gumamit ng "silent scenes." Hindi lahat ng panel ay kailangang may salita

f.) Iwasang gumuhit ng puro ulo. Nakakatamad magbasa ng komiks na puro "talking heads" lang ang nakikita. Subukang gumuhit ng ilang bagay-bagay na nasa paligid (ie. ashtray w/ half-used cigarettes) ng mga nag-uusap imbes na sila mismo ang iguhit sa panel. Nakakadagdag din ito sa drama.

g.) Huwag niyong sundin ang pinagsasasabi ko. Mahirap mapako sa mga "set of rules" dahil ang posibilidad ng pagla-layout ng komiks ay napakarami. Ang kailangan lang gawin ay ang mag-praktis ng mag-praktis!

MANGA REVIEW

THIS SAMURAI'S NO HIGHLANDER

Hiroaki Samura's Butt-kicking Head-dicing Swordsman with an Attitude

Well, he may not be as handsome as Kenshin, nor as skillful, but Manji, the main character in Blade of the Immortal is definitely no push-over. His gift (or shall we say curse) of immortality was given by an 800-year-old nun called Yaobikuni, after stuffing him with bloodworms to save him from certain death...

The result : an immortal body which just refuses to die...

As it turned out, immortality wasn't what it was all cracked up to be, so our hero strikes a deal with Yaobikuni to give back his mortality and to make amends for his not-so-righteous past. ... in exchange for the lives of a thousand bad guys. (thus, the title)

Ok, so here's Manji's dillemma, how in the world is he going to know who's good, and who's evil? (only Santa knows that!) Since humans do fight for what they believe to be right... remember Shishio? (ok, ok, so he IS evil, but he beleived he was right!)

Anyway, there's this girl named Rin, who sought Manji's help to avenge the death of her family from a group lead by Anotsu... Manji agrees to help, but not without hesitation. That's when all the fun starts!

Can you say body count?

continued next page

BLADE OF THE IMMORTAL

BLOOD OF A THOUSAND

ISBN: 1-56971-239-5

Story and Art by: Hiroaki Samura

Originally Published by: Kodansha Ltd: Tokyo, Japan in 1994

Published in the US by: Studio Proteus and Dark Horse Comics

Translated by: Dana Lewis and Toren Smith

Lettering and retouch by: Wayne Truman

$14.95 US $22.95 Canada

-192 pages; black and white; paperback (collects the first six issues of Blade of the Immortal: Blood of a Thousand)

TAMIYA TIPS

The Tamiya Mini-4WD: The latest craze that has beheld the nation. No man, woman or child is safe from its' addictive clutches. It, along with Pokemon, has awakened the long oppressed childishness of the Voltes V-martial law generation.

Anyway! Enough of the melodramatics, here are a few helpful hints and tips for all you gearheads! =)

- Do not use a hair dryer to dry the paint off your Mini 4WD, it warps pretty badly!
- There is a special oil that doesnt burn the rotor/brush, and I dont know what it is.
- Try using paint on the shafts, instead of superglue, it holds well and still can be removed
- Use a lint remover for your tires, it saves you on all that masking tape
- Trickle Charging works alot better than quick charging
- Dispose of old batteries properly, you can step on them and hurt yourself
- Clean your motor every so often, I do it every 2 races
- Risk your car to go slow, rather than fly off the track, you can still win if your opponent flies off-track
- Paint your car in a well ventilated place
- Do not ingest parts, large or small.
- Lexan body cars are about half the weight of ordinary bodies
- Keep the staples away from the motor
- 50,000+ RPM motors will expand your tires and will have the tendancy to hit your other car parts, and most of the time tear it to bits.
- Regularly Grease your Car Parts
- If someone offers you drugs, just say no.
- Metal Parts Maybe heavier but they do not melt easily and have less friction
- Removing the O-Ring on the Rollers makes your car move faster (a bit)
- Ball Bearing makes your Car go faster, and that may cause your car to jump.
- Never leave your Car and your stuff unattended, unless your very rich
- Find people to trade parts with, it saves you time and money
- Don't Forget the Battery Holder and the Lock for the body
- Most Tamiya motors cannot be opened easily without damaging the motor case
- The Auto Discharger takes a long time to discharge
- Eat food during the competition, it sort of prevents ulcers
- Have spare parts during the competition, you don't know what will break or get lost.
- If you don't sleep before the race, you will not get too excited during the race.
- Have Fun
- After a bad crash, check your car for wear (notice the white streaks on the chassis, yeah that means you will soon have to buy a new car)
- Don't forget about your friends that don't have Mini4WD cars

Use the following for a tech track:

- Small dia. tires
- One way tires
- A large gear ratio like 5:1
- Progressive down thrust rollers
- Large mm rollers (19mm or 17mm)
- Large body for less movement
- Aluminum motor support.
- Jet dash

You want all these for stability and quick acceleration because there will be a lot of power loss going on.

Get the following for a speed track:

- Large dia. tires
- Narrow wheels
- Small gear ratio like 3.5
- FRP plates
- Small mm rollers
- Narrow body
- Plasma dash

These are all good because you want very little contact with the walls.

The Tamiya logo is ™ & © of Tamiya inc.
Related characters are © of Koshita • Shogakukan

continued from previous page...

What struck me most about Blade of the Immortal (aside from the awesome storyline) was the way Samura rendered his manga. It deviated from the mainstream manga style, with it's sketchy line-art, pencilled panels and splash pages, and dynamic action scenes. The anatomy of his characters were the best I've seen in comics both American and Japanese alike. It's like a totally different genre of it's own!

Originally published in Japan by Kodansha in 1994, Dark Horse Comics published the series in English two years later. Unlike traditional manga translation techniques, wherein the original manga would be flipped in printing so as to make the reading left to right (as opposed to the Japanese's right to left), Samura preffered to have his artwork seen as it is. Even some of the original sound effects that Samura used was left untouched. Instead of having the manga flipped, Dark Horse translators cut and paste each individual panel so as to make it read left to right. (But I don't think this was implemented properly since some of the pages were obviously flipped... Manji's bad eye was shifting from right to left!)

Nonetheless, Blade of the Immortal: Blood of a Thousand is a must-have for all of you otakus out there... so check out your local comic book shops and ask for back-issues!

Manji and Rin: Aaaawwww... ain't they cute?!

-Taga-ilog

Jars of Clay — It's a Jungle out there...

by AJ Esguerra

Christian music has evolved from the Gregorian chant to the present-day Christian musicians. When the term "Christian music" is coined, people sometimes tend to think of Don Mohen or the songs that the choir in their local church sings. Everyone should remember that music can come in many forms, and Christian music is not an exception. R&B duo Mary Mary, bands such as Sixpence None the Richer, Creed, Plumb and performe Gary Valenciano are all proofs that Christian music can cross the bounds of tradition. In the country, it is this American band that introduced the Christian alternative genre into the mainstream, and they're called Jars of Clay. The band started in 1994, when they won a contest at Greenville College. Since then, success started to knock at their doors. The group is composed of Dan Haseltine, Charlie Lowell, Steve Mason and Mark Odmark. The Grammy award-winning quartet has already released six albums, including one tha contains live cuts (exclusive only to fan club members), and the recently released limited edition album "White Elephant Sessions." The band's sound, which is a mixture of alternative and pop have produced hits such as "Sinking," "Five Candles" and "Tea and Sympathy." They also had a handful of songs that were included in soundtracks, like "Everything In Between" and "Flood." Their latest effort, "If I Left the Zoo" contains eleven cuts, and some of these cuts tend to deviate from the sound of the previous two albums. Their first single, "Unforgetful You" is an example of that slight deviation; the single is also included in the Drive Me Crazy soundtrack. Their second single, "Famous Last Words" is reminiscent of their previous albums, likewise with "Goodbye Goodnight," "Hand," and their latest single "No One Loves Me Like You." The album in general is very good; it is definitely worth your money if you're into alternative pop. The band's manifestation of their faith through music has proven to be a successful tool in introducing the band's beliefs to others.

McKee

CCom Special Review by J.I.O.

Ah, nostalgia, that sweet poison which people tend to drink every now and then. Guns 'n Roses was at the top of the charts; mineral water was a luxury (MWSS juice was safe back then); my hair was trimmed in 'Mohawk. College was the best. It was during my college days that I ran across McKee.

Being anime freaks and all, I.Q. 40, and I were on a regular Japanese Merchandise hunt. Yes we had Manga and Anime but what we loved most was Japanese music. I.Q. 40 loved Japanese Pop while I loved Classical Japanese. We knew a lot of Japanese songs by heart and our quest for Japanese music led us to this strange trio.

McKee sang lovely songs that we thought were Japanese. But, after reading the lyrics, we were held aghast. They were singing in Filipino! An oddity at its best, the album cover held two gorgeous Japanese women and a... ah... a Japanese woman with a nice smile.

Popping their cassette in our players made us cringe with joy. McKee was fresh to the ear but the lyrics were hard to understand (they still sounded Japanese!). Da Bhoss says listening to McKee is strange but cool. Taga-Ilog thinks otherwise. I quote Taga-Ilog, "Ang McKee ay strange... but, strange." I.Q. 40 says it is great. I think he is in love with two of its members. I personally think McKee is a great deviation from the otaku's musical taste. I strongly recommend McKee to the adventurous listener. All in all, I give it five stars out of 10 moons. Da Bhoss gives it two snaps in a circle.

McKee is from EMI. If you want one, ask them. I'm sure they will still have a copy.

MOVIE PREVIEW by nemo

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Release Date: 11/16/2001
Starring: Richard Harris, Alan Rickman, Robbie Coltrane, Maggie Smith, Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson
Directed By: Chris Columbus
Produced By: David Heyman
Production Company: Warner Brothers

Perfect! They look just like what I imagined them to be...only Harrry should be thinner... umm, I think Ron should be taller... and umm... Hagrid should be bigger... no, BIGGER! and.... they're perfect... just as I imagined them! Wait, oh yeah... I think they should be....

Listen up all you Muggles! The movie adaptation for Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's stone has already started filming. We're here to report to you the latest tidbits we've picked up from hanging out at the Leaky Cauldron.

The actors who will be playing the lead roles of Harry, Hermione and Ron were announced a while back and I must say, they all look great! Especially Harry and Hermione! Young actor Daniel Radcliffe will be the film's Harry, with newcomers Rupert Grint and Emma Watson as Ron and Hermione.

Daniel has had extensive acting experience and has appeared in BBC's David Copperfield and will be seen later this year in The Tailor of Panama. Grint and Watson have only appeared in school plays so far, but keep in mind that thousands of kids auditioned for the part, so I'm willing to bet their pretty good.

J.K. Rowling, author of the massively successful Harry Potter books has been quoted saying: "Having seen Dan Radcliffe screen test, I don't think Chris Columbus could have found a better Harry. I wish Dan, Emma and Rupert the very best of luck and hope that they have as much fun acting the first year at Hogwarts as I had writing it."

In other casting news, Madam Hooch, the Hogwarts head of Quidditch and broomstick flying instructor, is to be played by Zoë Wannamaker, while Hagrid is to be put to life by Robbie Coltrane. Check out the pics on this page! I think they really nailed Hagrid don't you?

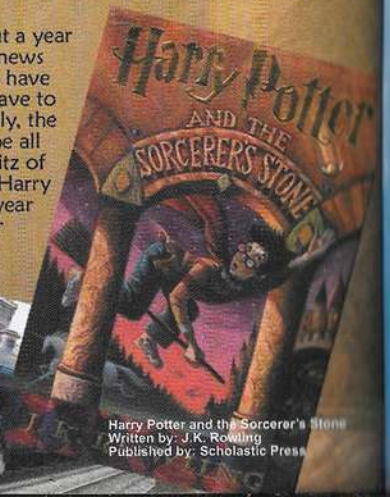
The other pictures show the location scenes for Privet Drive, a classroom at Hogwarts school, The Hogwarts Express,and what may well be the Hogwarts library.

Although the release date is still about a year away, I'm pretty excited with all the news here! Arrrgghhh! Not only do I now have to wait for the next Potter book, I have to wait for the movie too! Grrr... Ideally, the fifth book and movie will probably be all tied up in one glittering marketing blitz of magical proportions. So if you think Harry was big this year, think again. Next year promises to be even a bigger year for that kid with the scar.

SAY WHAT?!

Here's a quick guide on how to properly pronounce those often mispronounced words in J.K. Rowling's Novel...

Animagi- An-i-MAYJ-i
Animagus- An-i-MAYJ'us
Basilisk- BAS-ilisk
Boggart- BOGG'art
Circee- SIR see
Daedalus- DEED-a-lus
Draco- Dray-co
Erised- ERR-i-sed
Hagrid- HAG'rid
Hermione- her-my-oh-nee
Knuts- K'nuts
Quidditch- KWID-itch
Rowling- RO'ling
Rubeus- RU-BAY-US
Seamus- SHAME-us
Slytherin- SLITHER-in



Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
Written by: J.K. Rowling
Published by: Scholastic Press

CCCom Datebook

NOVEMBER

8
***CULTURE CRASH symposium on comics and computers at UST Education High School, España, Manila. (8AM-12PM)**

17
***CULTURE CRASH BOOK SIGNING AT POWERBOOKS SM MEGAMALL, 5PM onwards Open forum and basic art techniques. (Computer demo not confirmed)**

*High Flying Acts (A special show featuring daredevil motorcyclying and tightwire crossing), Alabang Town Center (till Nov. 20)

*99.5 RT Rage Night (a rockin' special night with the REtroSPECT), Hard Rock Café, Makati City, 9pm

*The Canadian Children's Festival (Storytelling, children's contests, and animation screening), Children's Library, 4/F Robinsons Galleria Ortigas, Pasig City, 1pm to 7pm (till Nov. 26)

18
***ANIME MARATHON BY ANIMA ANIME WITH CULTURE CRASH AT POWERBOOKS MAKATI (Arnaiz St. formerly Pasay Rd.) 12PM to 6PM (2nd floor)**

*The Canadian Children's Festival (Storytelling, children's contests, and animation screening),z Children's Library, 4/F Robinsons Galleria Ortigas, Pasig City, 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm (till Nov. 26)

19
*Trumpets Playshop (Classes in Children's Musical Theater, Musical Theater, Toddlers' Class, Streetdance, and One-on-one Voice Lessons), Shangri-La Mall (till Nov. 30)

23
*"Music from the Buffet Table" - The Launching (Barbie's Cradle's latest album launching), Storeys, The Fort, 9pm

24
*3rd Philippine Web Awards, Shangri-La Hotel, Makati, 8pm

*Cuervo Nights (a night with DJ Mark, DJ Erwin, and DJ Edward), Gotham Restaurant & Bar, J. Nakpil St., Malate, Manila, 9pm

25
*Studio 23 Sound Series Party (launching of the new video channel), Gotham Restaurant & Bar, J. Nakpil St. Malate, Manila, 9 pm *Boom na Boom opens 12th season, Boom na Boom (at the corner of Roxas Blvd. and Gil Puyat Ave.), 4pm onwards

*The Ultimate UK Club Tour (a rave party with DJ Smash - a registered Top DMC DJ in UK), Café Overdrive Bar & Restaurant, Makati City, 9pm

26
*Meet and Greet Pikachu (a fun-filled day with Pikachu), Robinson's Place Ermita, Manila, 12pm, 2pm, 4pm

*Pokemon Trading Card Game Tournament, Robinson's Place, Ermita, Manila, 10am

*Weekends at Shangri-La (face painting, caricaturists, acrobats, puppet shows and balloon sculptors in family festivities at the mall), Shangri-La Plaza Mall, 2pm

DECEMBER

1
*Radical (an energy-filled concert from Gary Valenciano), Araneta Coliseum, QC, 8pm (also on Dec. 2)

2
*Stars on Ice (A skating exhibition featuring the veteran members of the National, International, and Olympic quality teams), Alabang Town Center (till Dec. 5)

9
*Ska Fest Roots 2000 (The 3rd Annual Ska Festival), 9pm 10 *Choral Music @ UP (an evening of choral music, including liturgical songs, madrigals, Christmas songs and pop tunes), University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC, 6pm

21
*Deadline of submission of entries for Pilar Perez Medallion for Teen Writing Contest (Adarna House's writing contest open to all Filipino students and professionals), Filipinas Heritage Library

ATTENTION!!!

There are a few issues we would like to address:

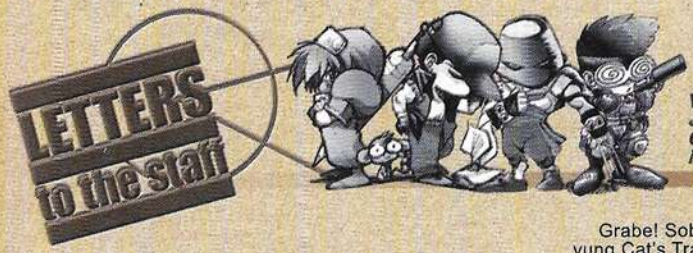
DISTRIBUTIONS :

A lot of you had great difficulty acquiring your co of Culture Crash 1. We responded by quickly restocking several shops a bookstores. However, mar still found it difficult to get copy. Because of this, we would like to solicit suggestions from you, our readers as to where you would like us to distribute copies. You may either e-mail us or contact us at 94 4512 to 13. You may also come to our offices and bu your discounted copies. Rates will depend on how many copies you will buy.

DATEBOOK:

If you have events that you would like us to post a the Datebook, try to e-mail us the details at least a month ahead of schedule. We cannot always guarante that they will be posted though.

e-mail:
cc_kom@hotmail.com



Write us at: cc_kom@hotmail.com or at J.C. Palabay Ent., Inc./ Culture Crash Comics 67 Gen. Ordoñez St. Marikina Heights, Marikina City 1811

To whom it may concern,

Hi! I'm just writing to you because I want to make a request. Would you feature the students at Artfarm (including myself); Knight Hunters (or Weiß Kreuz), Vision of Escaflowne, Gundam Wing, Samurai X (Ruroni Kenshin); SD (Super Deformed) Comics; dubbers of anime in the Philippines; a 10 of the best anime chart list: one for reader's choice and one for TV ratings. By the way, add at least one centerfold in every issue. Yun lang!

Your fan,
Irene C.
Makati M.M.

Hi to the staff of Culture Crash,

Kamusta kayong lahat diyan? Alam n'yo, first time ko palang makita ang komiks ninyo sa isang magazine stall, binili ko na ito kaagad. Gustong-gusto ko ang mga stories especially "One Day, Isang Diwa" at "Cat's Trail". I also like the manga section. Hanep talaga!

Alam ko naman na sa magazine na ito marami akong magugustuhan habang tumatagal. At sana, dagdagan niyo pa yung anime and manga section. Asahan niyo ito, more power at alam kong magtatagumpay pa kayo. Well, hanggang dito na lang, bye and more power!

Your no.1 fan,
Gema Faye
San Fernando, Pampanga

People have been sending in good ideas for requests and we are trying to digest them all. We'll try to feature some of what you have requested but no promises okay?

Also we have to verify if we won't get in trouble with the local copyright owners of some of the anime characters you suggested. Reviews are one thing, pin-ups are another. You can send fan art of your favorite characters if you want though!

Nihao! Konnichiwa!

Alam nyo unang kita ko pa lang sa inyong komiks ay naengganyo na akong bumili kasi ang ganda, ganda ng cover. Mahilig ako sa mga Japanese anime. Mukha kasing Japanese anime ang inyong mga guhit kaya nagustuhan ko. Nung una akala ko magagastos lang ang P75 ko, pero nung nabasa ko na at nakita ang mga drawings ay nasulit naman. Magaganda lahat ang kuwento lalo na ang One Day, Isang Diwa at Cat's Trail Ang cool ng outfit ni Diwa at ang cute ni Airee Collette. Curious lang ako, ano bang kaguluhan ang nangyayari sa Pasig? Sobrang Hi-tech ng Solstice Butterfly.

Sige hanggang dito na lamang, keep up the good work and more power!

Your fan,
Annalyn L. Arrozal
San Fernando, Pampanga

Maraming salamat Annalyn, at pati na rin sa kapatid mo na si Danilyn! Ano nga bang kaguluhan ang nangyayari sa Pasig? Teka ha... (kinausap sandali si Taga-Ilog) Nagkaroon daw ng civil war sa Pilipinas at saka... pag-iisipan pa daw niya muna.

Grabe! Sobrang ganda ng bago niyong manga! Lalo na yung Cat's Trail! (Pero sabi ng shoti ko fave daw niya yung One Day, Isang Diwa)

I really hope that you guys continue this mag. You can count na I'm going to buy your every issue tapos sasabihin ko sa friends ko tungkol sa Culture Crash. Galing ninyo sobra magdrawing, tapos ganda pa ng color-coordination ninyo (ayoko lang yung first part yung Solstice Butterfly maganda yung story pero yung colors I don't know na, sorry no offense.)

Sabi ng younger brother ko please continue daw the One Day, Isang Diwa, tapos please continue Cat's Trail and the rest of your comics there! Good luck to your manga and God bless! (P.S. Sabi ng younger sister ko lahat daw ng stories da best.)

Amie chua
Via Internet

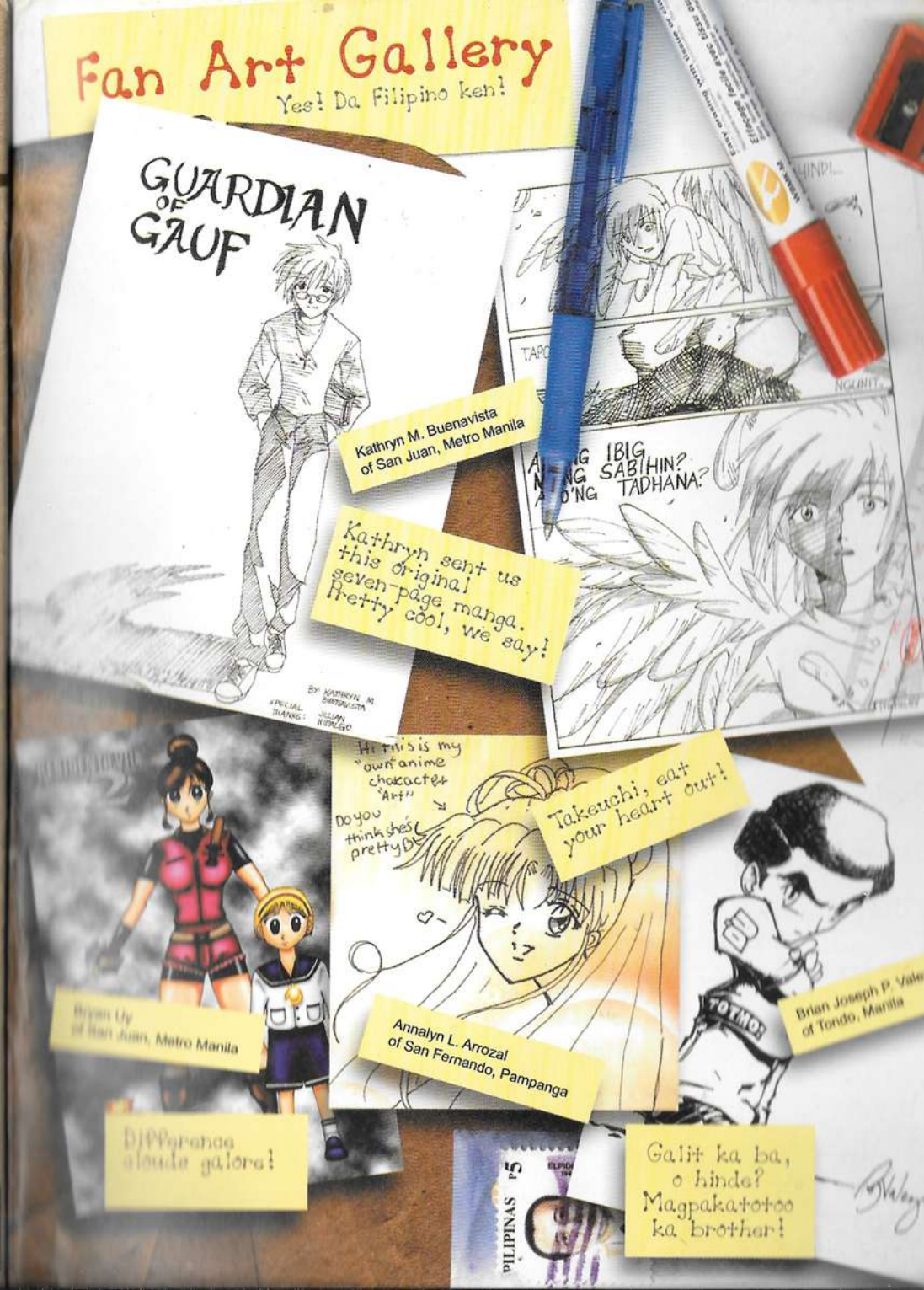
Maraming salamat muli sa inyong supporta! At para sa mga me complaints sa kulay ng Solstice: Have you checked out Solstice in this issue? 'Nuff said!

Hi! How are you? I just couldn't resist dropping you guys a line to congratulate you on your EXCELLENT work so far! I really enjoyed reading the first issue, but it was this second one which I really went wow all over. I just love everything about this: the great, great eye-candy, the cute, light-hearted dialogues (it's nice to take a break from angst every now and then), and most importantly, the characters. I just adored all the new characters. Jedd from "One Day, Isang Diwa" is so, so, sooooo cute! Okay, so he's not exactly bishonen a-la-Kamui or anything, but he's just so gwapo in a realistic, Filipino way. (I'd go a-droolin' over him, too! ^O^) And I just loved Butler (cool name!) from "Cat's Trail." I don't know if it was the pale turquoise hair or the attitude or both, but I fell in love with him at once. *nose-bleeds* And I even liked Leo, that macho attitude was really amusing, although if he were a real person, I know I'd be real pissed off. O_o

Anyway, I just have a question: are you guys gonna come up with a graphic novel or something like that in the future? Like maybe a compilation of all the chapters/episodes of each story into one book (sorta like manga volumes), or maybe come up with a new story in graphic novel format? ^_^; I was just curious. ^_~

So, good luck with the upcoming issues! I'm really looking forward to more, and I know I'm not the only one! It'd be cool if we could get ahold of an issue, say, before Christmas, ne? ^^

Take care, and God bless! MORE POWER!
~*~*~*~
Chibi Chiriko (Angela Serrano)
Via Internet

Hi Angela! Graphic novel?! Hmm...wish I could say yes but the truth is we don't know yet! We currently have no plans for it but hey, the future is filled with endless possiblities. Hey! Did I just rip that off from somewhere or did I just made that up?! Hope you got this issue before Christmas!

Sorry if we had to really edit your letters people! We're still getting entiries for the contest by the way, so we'll be announcing the winners next issue! Hope you liked the improvements! We have more plans but we have to take this one step at a time! Thanks and see you next issue!